

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2003/001474

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int. Cl. ⁷ : G06F 009/00		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI, USPTO (MODUL+, COMPONENT?, PORT? ETC)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6405361 B1 (BROY ET AL) 11 June 2002 See Whole Document	1- 3, 5 - 9, 14, 25 - 27, 29 - 38, 46 - 48, 117, 120 - 122, 149 - 151, 157 - 159
X	EP 1211598 A1 (TEXAS INSTRUMENT INCORPORATED) 5 June 2002 Abstract Column 4, paragraph 0017 - Column 6, paragraph 0036	1, 29, 36, 37, 46, 149, 156 - 159
A	US 5867707 A (NISHIDA ET AL) 2 February 1999 See Whole Document	1 - 48, 117 - 122, 149 - 158
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 27 January 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 04 FEB 2004	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer M.J. O'ROURKE Telephone No : (02) 6283 2017	

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos :
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos :
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos :
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See Supplemental Box

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1 - 48, 117 - 122 and 149 - 158

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No: II

1. Claims 1 - 48, 117 - 122 and 149 - 158 relate to combinations of components, each component corresponding to a data manipulation service. This feature represents a first "special technical feature".
2. Claims 49 - 63 and 77 - 91 are directed towards generating specifications for the data manipulation services embodied in components, and to implementing combinations of components. In these claims, the specification of ports within the components, and the connections between the ports, represents a second "special technical feature".
3. Claims 64 - 76 and 123 - 130 relate to a method of providing a service in a component. These claims do not relate to combinations of the components themselves, nor to ports within the components. The steps of providing the service embodied in a component represent a third "special technical feature".
4. Claims 92 - 102 are directed towards a method of performing context dependent data manipulations. The claims relate to defining components embodying several techniques for manipulating data, so that in use, the technique used will depend on the context. These claims do not relate to combinations of components, nor to ports within the components. The context-dependent nature of the data manipulation represents a fourth "special technical feature".
5. Claims 103 - 116 and 131 - 148 relate primarily to the implementation of agents in component based data manipulation. These agents interact with agents within their component and also with agents in other components. These agents represent a fifth "special technical feature".

The only common feature between all of these claims is the use of component based data manipulation. However, this concept is known, for example from these prior art documents:

- US 6405361 B1 (BROY ET AL) 11 June 2002
- EP 1211598 A1 (TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED) 5 June 2002.

These documents disclose specific applications of component based data manipulation, the applications requiring combinations of the components. Particularly these documents disclose components corresponding to computer code which are combined to produce code. The components defined in the application correspond to data manipulation services however, they are combined to form code and as such must contain code themselves.

The identified special technical features are not so linked as to form a common inventive concept. Therefore unity of invention is lacking *a posteriori*.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member
US	6405361	DE 19837871
EP	1211598	
US	5867707	JP 7104981

END OF ANNEX